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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
TO THE FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
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To:-

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Authority,

May I again have the pleasure of presenting the annual report for the year ended December 31st, 1959, for your approval.

From a medical standpoint nothing of importance has occurred.

The only time I was shaken was by the receipt of a wireless message from the Master of a vessel with an Indian crew informing me that he was putting in to Falmouth Bay with a suspected case of small-pox on board. Fortunately it turned out to be chicken-pox.

Three events of interest in the Port were (1) the sinking of a new vessel in the Harbour soon after arrival causing trouble in the Harbour and on the beaches due to the leakage of lubricating oil, (2) the arrival of the vessel Flavia which was completely burnt out, and (3) the unusual arrival of a passenger vessel to land three hundred and seventy-five passengers. This went off without a hitch.

Thirty-eight visits were made into the Bay to examine and land injured or sick men.

There was considerably less sickness in ships in the harbour and docks, due apparently to the excellent summer we had.

May I express my appreciation of the help and co-operation of your Inspector, Mr. Jackett, and the Port organisation as a whole which helps considerably in the carrying out of my duties.

I remain, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

A. CECIL DICK

M.R.C.S.Eng. L.R.C.P.Lond.



## I. STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of appointment	Date of appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
D.HALL	Clerk	21 February, 1952	-	-
J.W.MORTON	Treasurer	28 December, 1951	-	Manager, Lloyds Bank, Falmouth.
A.C.DICK	Port Medical Officer of Health	2 February, 1945	M.R.C.S.Eng. L.R.C.P.Lond.	-
H.R.T.DEVLIN	Deputy Port Medical Officer of Health	1 April, 1955	M.B., B.Ch., Dublin	-
F.JACKETT	Port Health Inspector	1 October, 1940	Cert.R.San.I.	-

Address and telephone number of )  
the Medical Officer of Health )  
Tel. Falmouth 226.



II. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT  
DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	456	1,183,108	52	298	-
Castwise	843	1,416,191	8	926	-
Total	1,299	2,599,299	60	1,224	-



III. CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE  
DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic .....	{ Number of passengers INWARDS 375
	{ Number of passengers OUTWARDS Nil
Cargo Traffic	{ Principal IMPORTS General cargo, including food produce, coal, cement, timber, oil and petroleum spirit.
	{ Principal EXPORTS None.

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive :-

Abadan, Aden, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Bombay, Curacao, Cherbourg, Dieppe, Flushing, Genoa, Gibraltar, Hampton Roads, Halifax N.S., Hamburg, Men-a-Ahmadi, Rotterdam, Rouen.

IV. INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no Barge traffic in the Port.

V. WATER SUPPLY

No change.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS)  
REGULATIONS, 1952

No change.



## VII. SMALL POX

All cases or suspected cases of smallpox may be sent to Lee Mill Hospital, Near Ivybridge, Devon.

Ambulances for the transport of such cases would be supplied by the Cornwall County Council who are also responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crew.

The smallpox consultants available are -

Dr. D. F. Johnstone,  
The Scott Isolation Hospital,  
Plymouth.  
(Tel. Plymouth 4311 and 61437).

Dr. W. A. Lister,  
7 The Crescent,  
Plymouth.

Specimens for laboratory diagnosis would be sent to The Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, N.W.9. (Tel. Colindale 7041).

## VIII. VENEREAL DISEASE

No change.



IX. CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ships	-	-	-	-

X. OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No case of Malaria has been observed during the past year.

XI. MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

No ships infected with or suspected for plague have arrived during the past year.

XII. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Procedure for inspection of ships for rats

Vessels are boarded by the Port Health Inspector as soon as possible after arrival, and unless the Masters produce recently issued certificates, inspections are extended to the holds, etc., in order to ascertain the rat population. Where indications of rat infestation are found traps are set and poison baits



are laid, and in cases where the deratting certificate has expired and indications of rodent infestation are found, the vessel is ordered to be fumigated.

Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological Examination of Rodents

Arrangements have been made for the bacteriological and pathological examination of rodents at the Royal Infirmary, Pathological Department, Truro.

No rodents have been sent for examination during the year.

Arrangements for deratting ships and methods used

Deratting of ships is normally carried out entirely by fumigation by hydrogen cyanide. The work is carried out by a commercial contractor, Fumigation Services Ltd., of London.

Progress in the rat-proofing of ships

Vessels are found to be largely rat-proof.

TABLE E  
RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR  
IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Category	Number
Black rats	-
Brown rats	63
Sent for examination	-
Infected with plague	-



TABLE F

DERRATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED  
DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

R.C.M	Number of Deratting Certificates issued			Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
	After fumigation with trapping	After poisoning	Total		
1	Other fumigant (State Method)	3	4	5	6
2	-	-	5	85	90
4	-	1 (Sodium Fluroacetate)	5		



XIII. INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G  
INSPECTION AND NOTICES

Nature and Number of inspections	Notices Served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
General Inspections	1,224	Nil	131
Re-visits	1,621	Nil	-
Total	2,845	Nil	131

XIV. PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH)  
REGULATIONS 1934 and 1948

No change

XV. MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Medical Inspectors of Aliens holding Warrants of Appointment

Dr. Albert Cecil Dick, Port Medical Officer of Health.

Other Staff

None.

Organisation of Work and Nature and Amount of Alien Traffic

Falmouth is an approved Port under the Aliens Order for the landing of aliens but there is little or no aliens traffic in the Port. In the event, however, of aliens arriving arrangements would be made for medical inspection to be carried out on board. It has not been thought necessary to make any special arrangements for providing accommodation for medical inspection and examination ashore.

XVI. MISCELLANEOUS

No change



## INSPECTOR'S REPORT

To:

### THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE FALMOUTH AND TRURO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1959.

#### SHIP INSPECTION

During the year 1,224 vessels were inspected and 131 of them found to have nuisances or defects on board.

Vessels on entering the Port are visited as soon as possible and enquiries made concerning the health of the crew, the occurrence of any sickness during the voyage, the condition of the water supply tanks and bilges and the presence of animals or parrots on board. The Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate is inspected and if found to be in order I am accompanied by a Ship's Officer to examine the sanitary condition of the vessel. During the inspection I point out any defects or nuisances and suggest the remedy to be adopted. The shipping companies are always ready and willing to remedy any such defects or nuisances which have been brought to their notice.

It was not necessary to serve any statutory notices. Verbal and informal notices were given, as a result of which all the nuisances and defects were remedied before the vessels left the Port again. 1,621 re-visits were made in connection with nuisances and defects, rat destruction etc.

#### Dirt, Vermin and other Conditions Prejudicial to Health

Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health and structural defects caused through wear and tear such as dirty and/or verminous crews' quarters, foul water closets, choked scuppers, dirty food and clothes lockers accounted for the majority of the nuisances.



Various methods are adopted to free the vessels from vermin, disinfection being carried out by pressure spraying an insecticide, fumigation by Hydrogen Cyanide, Gammaxine or D.D.T.

#### Structural Defects caused through Wear and Tear

Defective port frames and linings, broken glasses, defective water closets, leaky deck heads and defective heating apparatus, bunks and lockers were responsible for the greater number of this type of defect. Other defects dealt with were defective showers, water service pipes and floors and leaky sky-lights.

#### FOOD INSPECTION

No imported foodstuffs are discharged within the Port Health District. Food on vessels intended for ships' provisions are inspected by officers of the Ministry of Transport.

The only food coming under the Authority's notice is food intended for ships' provisions and temporarily landed into store while a vessel is undergoing repair.

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

No Rodent Control Certificates were issued to Coasting vessels under this Act. It has been found that since the introduction of a charge for these certificates, most coasting vessels now prefer to have the international certificate as there is little difference in the charge and the international certificate is, of course, valid should the vessel make a foreign voyage, where the Rodent control certificate is not.

#### The Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food) Regulations 1925-1948

No action necessary.

#### The Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926

No action necessary



Clean Air Act, 1956

No applications have been received by this Authority for temporary exemptions under Section 2 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

During the year under review 58 vessels were observed emitting dark smoke, and in consequence verbal notice was given to the Masters of the vessels concerned and the smoke emission was abated immediately.

It must be admitted that the majority of ship owners are doing their utmost to co-operate with the Authority by complying with the Regulations made under the Act.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK JACKETT

Port Health Inspector

